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AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION SECTION ON COMPARATIVE LEGISLATION.

REPORT.

During the last year, largely through the efforts of Dr. George Winfield Scott, of the Law Library of Congress and the Supreme Court, there was an appropriation made by Congress to prepare a classification scheme for a detailed subject index of the general public law found in the statutes, treaties and proclamations in the United States since the foundation of the Government. This matter was put into the hands of Dr. Scott, who, with the assistance of Mr. Middleton G. Beaman and Mr. Joseph A. Beck, has prepared such a scheme, consisting of some eight hundred quarto pages. It consists of a tentative list of headings and sub-headings which form "the framework or skeleton on which will be subjoined at the appropriate points the entries or brief descriptions of the innumerable subjects of law in the 40,000 pages of Statutes and Treaties."

Dr. Scott is the chairman of the Committee on Classification. This classification scheme has now been submitted to many experts throughout the country for their criticism. Congress has continued this appropriation for another year, and it is hoped will support the work regularly so that this work can be successfully carried out. If this is done, this classification scheme will form a most useful basis for the classification of the statutes of the various states and countries, and will thus be a step taken toward indexing comparative legislation which has been so often advocated.

The credit for carrying this work on should be given to Dr. Scott, who has worked independently in this regard rather than as a member of a committee.

At the meeting in Providence it was decided to reorganize the committees of the section. Dr. Scott was reappointed as chairman of the committee on Classification, Dr. Albert Shaw

as chairman of the committee on Ways and Means, and Mr. Charles McCarthy was made chairman of the committee on Bibliography. These committees are already undertaking active work in their respective lines. It is expected that the section next year will be able to present a report of definite work done, and perhaps to provide for a part of the program at the meeting of the Association.